Application No. 10/757,631 Amendment dated December 11, 2007 Reply to Office Action of August 27, 2007

REMARKS

We have canceled claims 1 and 8 and replaced them with new claims 22 and 23, respectively. We have also canceled certain other claims that had depended from 1 and 8. Now all claims generally relate to testing navigational paths through digital content. After entering the amendments presented herein, claims 2-4, 6, 9-16, 18, 22, and 23 will be pending in this application.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-16 and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Ferguson (EP 2 203 269). Ferguson relates to using the identification of incoming signals using "a plurality of matched filters, each matched filter corresponding to a time-reversed reference signal" (see page 4 line 23 to page 5 line 2). The Examiner seems to believe that Ferguson discloses navigational data. However, it is not clear which aspect of the Ferguson patent application is considered to correspond to this feature. Moreover, Ferguson clearly does not disclose testing <u>navigational paths</u> as now claimed, since the "incoming signal" referred to by Ferguson does not represent a navigational path.

In addition, we submit that other features required by the independent claims are missing from Ferguson. For example, although Ferguson mentions "identification codes", it is clear that these are not used to access an abstraction, which is then used to determine whether there is a correlation between it and an anticipated abstraction, as required by the claims. As can be seen from, for example, page 5 lines 21-22, the identification code of the Ferguson system is used to indicate whether a match between the incoming signal and a reference signal has been found, and if so, with which reference signal. Thus, the identification codes are associated with the incoming signal after it has been identified (i.e. after a correlation has been determined); they are not used in the process of making this correlation.

Also, in the Ferguson system identification data is not "extracted from the video sequence" as is required by the claims.

For the reasons stated above, we believe that the claims are in condition for allowance and therefore ask the Examiner to allow them to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

Eric L. Prahl

Registration No.: 32,590 Attorney for Applicant(s)

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP 60 State Street Boston, Massachusetts 02109 (617) 526-6000 (telephone) (617) 526-5000 (facsimile)